

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments and following comments is courteously solicited.

Initially the undersigned wishes to acknowledge the indication of allowance of previously submitted method claims 31-38.

The examiner indicated the subject matter of previously submitted dependent claims 23 and 24 as being allowable. Applicants by the instant amendment have rewritten claims 23 and 24 in independent form.

Accordingly, it is believed that claims 23 and 24 are now in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 20 has been amended so as to set forth with more specificity the brake disc of the present invention. Amended claim 20 now sets forth that the stud is of a non-ferrous material which is softer than the material of the lining support and that the stud is welded to the lining support. Claim 20 also has been amended to set forth that the stud passes through the friction lining up to the lining surface. Finally, claim 20 sets forth that the stud abrades with the friction lining during breaking. It is respectfully submitted that claim 20 now patentably defines over the cited and applied art of record whether it be the Bluhm '133 patent taken alone or in combination with the Biswas '546 patent. Neither of the prior art references taken alone or in combination teach the specific combination of features set forth above with regard to amended independent claim 20.

In light of the foregoing amendments and comments, it is submitted that all of the claims as presently pending patentably define over the art of record and an early indication of same is respectfully requested.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the

undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,
Dieter Goldbach et al.

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I, Rachel Piscitelli, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on February 22, 2007.

